



IU BEATS OHIO STATE FOR BIG TEN TITLE, TOP SEED IN PLAYOFFS
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Commissioners adopt 3 interlocal agreements

BY BOB DEMAREE

With the end of the year just a few weeks away, the Jefferson County Commissioners took action at their meeting Friday on interlocal agreements already approved by the city of Madison and town of Hanover.

The updated interlocal agreements — on 911 emergency communications and the animal shelter — are largely being driven by a need to change the make-up of those boards. The 911 board

needed to meet state requirements for majority representation by law enforcement and the animal shelter board being restructured after it was dissolved in 2022.

Brandon Tucker, the county's 911 executive director, said the need for majority law enforcement on the 911 board is because Jefferson County 911 is a non-criminal justice agency without law enforcement powers, yet Jefferson County 911 has access to NCIC (National Crime Information Center) and IDACS (Indiana Data and Communications

System) databases on behalf of criminal justice agencies (Jefferson County Sheriff, Madison Police and Hanover Police). Because of that, Indiana administrative code requires that the governing body must be majority (51% or greater) sworn law enforcement.

In order to have a majority of law enforcement, the board will now include a County Commissioner, Madison Mayor and Hanover Town Council member, along with the County Sheriff, Madison Police Chief, Hanover Town Marshal and a County

Sheriff's Deputy appointed by the Sheriff to provide a 4-3 majority from law enforcement.

The new animal shelter interlocal agreement established an animal shelter advisory board that will include a County Commissioner, the Madison Mayor and a Hanover Town Council member, along with one veterinarian appointed by the other three board members to act in an advisory role with regard to animal healthcare and day-to-day best practices.

The Commissioners also approved

an interlocal agreement on public safety amending an existing ordinance between the city and Jefferson County that was created as part of the financing for the Jefferson Sheriff's Office and Criminal Justice Center. The agreement decreases the city's contribution for public safety from 50% to 41% while the county's funding for historic preservation will increase from \$45,000 to \$65,000. Commissioner David Bramer said those funds have

SEE **INTERLOCAL/PAGE A6**

Very Merry Madison Parade



Photos by Bob Demaree

Santa Claus was the highlight of Saturday's Very Merry Madison Parade.



Christian Cull (left) and Suzanna Stephens of Girls Inc. rode the Madison Trolley in Saturday's Very Merry Madison Parade.



A Christmas tree moved alongside the Deputy Elementary School float along the parade route during Saturday's Very Merry Madison Parade.



Employees of the Jefferson County Public Library walk with the snowflake balloon in the Very Merry Madison Parade held Saturday on Main Street.



Parade patrons young and old wave to the fire trucks as they lead off Saturday's Very Merry Madison Parade with lights flashing and sirens blasting.

Community Crossings grant awarded to Jefferson County

BY BOB DEMAREE

Jefferson County has been awarded \$582,015.20 from the Indiana Department of Transportation's Community Crossings Matching Grant program, according to an announcement by County Highway Superintendent Jason Copeland at Friday's Commissioners meeting.

"We worked extremely hard to get a wheel tax passed to make sure we were a part of this. We worked extremely hard to do paper work to get this. We were one of a few counties that was awarded Community Crossings, and there were several counties that didn't get one dime," Copeland said. "To get that makes us feel really good with all the hard work that we put in. We're pretty excited about that."

The wheel tax is the result of House Enrolled Act 1461 that was passed by the Indiana General Assembly earlier this year that makes adoption of the tax a requirement to be eligible for Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) funds. In August, Jefferson County Council adopted the county rate of \$7.50 for passenger motor vehicles and lesser weight vehicles and \$5 for heavier vehicles — both minimums under the wheel tax ordinance.

Vevay Clerk-Treasurer Brandi Scudder announced at Thursday's Vevay Town Board meeting that the town has been awarded \$199,000 in Community Crossings funds that she said will be used for paving Vineyard Street, "and some of the rougher areas around Silver, Pike and Seminary" streets at the intersections.

Madison Mayor Bob Courtney said Madison did not receive CCMG funding for 2026. "Like many communities in southern Indiana and across the state, we are very disappointed in the outcome but not surprised. As I stated during the budget process and throughout the adoption

SEE **COMMUNITY/PAGE A6**

Redistricting would move Jefferson, Switz to 7th District

BY BOB DEMAREE

Proposed changes to Indiana's Congressional districts were introduced with maps last week that would move Jefferson and Switzerland counties into the 7th District.

Whether the maps are actually changed will depend on what the Indiana Senate does this week. Meeting in a special session Friday, the Indiana House of Representatives voted 57-41 in support of redistricting.

For years, Jefferson and Switzerland counties were in the 9th Congressional District until after the 2010 Census when they became a part of the 6th Congressional District for a decade. But following the 2020 Census, Jefferson and Switzerland counties were back in the 9th Congressional District.

If redistricting is approved, Jefferson and Switzerland counties will again be out of the 9th District, but this time moved to the 7th District, currently located totally within Marion County

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DEATHS, A3

Terry Anderson Gary Bonesteel Sr. Barbara Dunn

Richard McLeod Timothy Rector Dennis Reed

Evelyn Smith Walter Sutherland Jr.



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Santa at the Fountain



Bob Demaree

Families gather around Santa Claus at Madison's Broadway Fountain following Saturday's parade during the Very Merry Madison Christmas Celebration.

Carroll, Trimble one month into primary filing period

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Andy Mefford

Kentucky is now one month into the filing period for the May 2026 primary election and several residents have announced their candidacies in Carroll and Trimble counties for the Republican and Democratic primaries for county offices as well as a few others for local non-partisan city races.

The primary election will be Tuesday, May 19, 2026 and the general election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026.

The filing period began on Wednesday, Nov. 5 and ends at 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9. Uncontested candidates will automatically move onto the ballot for the November general election.

Those who have filed for local offices to date include (through Friday, Nov. 5):

CARROLL COUNTY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE

Scott Nab
Mark Bates

COUNTY CLERK

Danielle Maiden (I)

SHERIFF

Ryan Gosser (I)

JAILER

Daniel Rose (I)

PROPERTY VALUATION ADMINISTRATOR

Rob Robertson (I)

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Nicholas Marsh (I)

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 1

Benjamin "Benjie" Long (I)
Paul D. Yocum
Lance Maiden

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 2

Clay Cable (I)

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 3

Jennifer Beach
John Darrell Barnhill

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

CONSTABLE DISTRICT 1

Aaron Duane Marsh (I)

NON-PARTISAN CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL

Deidra Hays (I)
Christina Marsh (I)

GHENT CITY COMMISSION

Matthew Brawner (I)

TRIMBLE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE

Ricky Simmons
Jonathan G. Turner
John D. Ogburn Jr. (I)

COUNTY CLERK

Sarah Cull (I)

SHERIFF

David "Neil" Mesker
James "Jim" Mitchell

JAILER

Kirby Melvin
Will McCoy

PROPERTY VALUATION ADMINISTRATOR

Jill Hudson Mahoney (I)

CORONER

Cody Killingsworth
Kendall Compton
Samantha "Sam" Kimbler

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Crystal L. Heinz (I)

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 1

Chris Wright

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 2

Melissa Gibson-Cornish (I)
Matt Gossom

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 3

Chris Hewitt
J.D. Jones (I)

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 4

Crystal Whittice (I)

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

SHERIFF

Bob G. Temple

JAILER

Travis Webster

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 1

Chris Liter (I)

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT 4

William J. Robinson

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER LODGINGS. Dec. 4, 2025

James Robert Lanham, 36, Madison, to serve 30 days jail on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.

Anthony Wayne Wheeler, 50, Madison, for Domestic Battery, a Level 6 felony, No bond.

Dec. 5, 2025

Cazden Layne Nott, 24, Madison, to serve 38 days jail on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.

Michael Branden Zalat, 39, Hanover, for Domestic Battery, Resisting Law Enforcement and Battery Against a Public Safety Official, all Level 6 felonies. No bond.

Dec. 7, 2025

Blake Robert Falconberry, 33, Madison, for Domestic Battery, Strangulation and Criminal Confinement, all Level 6 felonies, No bond.

JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT SENTENCINGS Dec. 3, 2025

Michael Eugene Adams, 64, Richmond, Indiana, to amended charges of Possession of Cocaine, a Level 5 felony; and Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 6 years at Indiana Department of Correction on the felony, consecutive to 260 days jail on the misdemeanor, with credit for 26 days served and 2 years prison suspended to supervised probation through Jefferson County Court Services and a 90-day suspension of driver's license upon release from IDOC.

Derek W. Barnes, 37, Madison, to an amended charge of Operating a Vehicle while Intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days at Jefferson County Jail, fully executed, with credit for 182 days served, but consecutive to revocation of 365 days suspended sentence in prior conviction for Attempted Dissemination of Matter Harmful to Minor, a Level 6 felony, to be executed at Indiana Department of Correction, plus \$489.50 in fees and court costs and driver's license is suspended for 90 days.

Dec. 5, 2025

Seth Joseph Hoevenner, 30, Lexington, Indiana, for revocation of probation and

LOTTERIES

INDIANA

Hoosier Lotto 10-16-20-37-40-42 (12/6). Estimated Jackpot: \$7.7 million. Next Drawing (12/10)
Cash Five: 10-13-17-22-23 (12/7)
Cash 4 Life: 16-25-29-35-53 CB: 2 (12/7)

KENTUCKY

Cash Ball: 8-27-31-35 CB: 11 (12/7)
Lucky For Life: 5-8-11-12-34 LB: 4 (12/7)
MEGAMILLIONS: 34-38-42-44-69 MB: 8 (12/5). Next Jackpot: \$60 million. Next Drawing (12/9)
POWERBALL: 13-14-26-28-44 PB: 7, PP 2 (12/6). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$875 million. Next Drawing (12/8th)
POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY 4-17-29-55-56 3 PB: 2 (12/6). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (12/8)

BIRTHDAYS

Editor's Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

BIRTHDAYS Dec. 9

Denise Buxton

Dec. 11

Keith Howard
Amy Stivers
Kevin Watkins

Dec. 13

Bill Poindexter

Dec. 14

Charles Gaddie

Dec. 15

Margaret Scott

Dec. 17

Larry Duke
John Haskell

ANNIVERSARIES

None

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:46 a.m.

Sunset: 5:21 p.m.

Temperature: High 33, Low 23, Mean 28, Deficit 11.1

Precipitation since last published: .40 (mix)

Precipitation, December 2025: .42

Precipitation, 2025: 55.26

Barometer 30.08, Rising

River Level at Clifty Creek: 422.26 feet, Steady

Forecast: Wednesday: Rain High 46/Low 28; Thursday: Cloudy High 32/Low 28; Friday: Snow showers High 33/Low 20; Saturday: Mostly cloudy High 29/Low 17.

amended sentencing for Domestic Battery and Invasion of Privacy, both Level 5 felonies. Sentenced to 2 years at Indiana Department of Correction on the battery charge, consecutive to 1 year on the invasion of privacy charge, both consecutive to balance of prior sentences in Level 3 felony and misdemeanor convictions.

Cheyenne Elaine Mason, 28, Rising Sun, Indiana. Sentenced to 1,095 days each for Dealing in Methamphetamine and Dealing in Cocaine, both Level 5 felonies, concurrent, with credit for 124 days jail served and 971 days suspended to but consecutive to any outstanding sentence in separate conviction in Switzerland County, Indiana.

Danielle Marie Ellis, 41, Marengo, Indiana, for Resisting Law Enforcement and Public Intoxication, both misdemeanors. Sentenced to 60 days jail on each count, concurrent, fully executed, with credit for 8 days jail served plus \$189 in court costs.

Jose Luis Cruz-Cortes, 33, Seymour, Indiana, for Operating Without Ever Receiving a Valid Driver's License, a misdemeanor. Sentenced to 6 days jail, served, plus \$189.50 in court costs and release subject to ICE hold.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS JEFFERSON COUNTY Dec. 4, 2025

Frances E. Stephan (trustee) and Raymond Wayne Stephan and Frances E. Stephan Revocable Living Trust to William Weaver Jr. and Crystal Dawn Weaver, 213 Miles Ridge Road, Madison.

Dewona Kay Chamberlain and Russell Bilz (deceased) to Dewona Kay Chamberlain, 1100+ Walnut Street, Madison.

Karen Jo Crowder and Delmar D. Stark Sr. (estate) to Delmar D. Stark Jr. and Karen J. Crowder, part of 56 acres at 9000+ West State Road 362, Nabb.

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(812) 265-3641, press 5
Bob Demaree, Reporter (812) 265-3644

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Out of area: \$90 annually

OBITUARIES

Terry Joe Anderson

Terry Joe Anderson, age 79, of Lexington, IN, entered this life on Nov. 10, 1946, in Whitaker, West VA. He was the loving son of the late Charles W. and Elise Fields Anderson. He was raised in Commiskey, and West Virginia where his father was a coal miner. He had resided in Jefferson County for nearly 60 years. He graduated in 1964, from Dupont High School in Dupont, IN. He joined the United States Marine Corps in 1964, and rose to the rank of sergeant serving during the Vietnam War Era in Okinawa. He was honorably discharged in 1967. He began working at the Jefferson County Proving Ground as a comptroller and immediately began college part-time. He received his bachelors with honors from Indiana University in 1975, and his masters from Bellarmine University with an MBA degree as well as a CPA in 1979. After several years at the Proving Ground, he was promoted to the chief of the administration office at the Charlestown Ammunition Depot from where he retired early in 1993. He also owned and operated the Terry J. Anderson CPA for over 40 years at his home in Lexington, IN.

He was first united in marriage to Glenna Carol Owen and this union was blessed with two sons, William and Bradley. On June 23, 2001, he was united in marriage to Jan Terese Miller Kikta at the Madison Assembly of God Church in Madison, IN. This union blended two families together with the



addition of Jan's children, Jason, Joshua, Jennifer, Sarah, and Evan. He attended various churches over his lifetime, the last being New Prospect Baptist Church. He was a member of the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion and was a Kentucky Colonel. He enjoyed fishing, reading, old westerns, comedy shows, and traveling. Terry died on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025, at 4:08 p.m., at his home in Lexington, IN, with his devoted wife by his side.

Terry will be missed by his loving wife, Jan Terese Miller Kikta Anderson of Lexington, IN; his son, William "Bill" Anderson of Madison, IN; his step sons, Jason Kikta and his wife, Mary-Lena of Dayton, MD, Joshua Kikta and his wife, Melissa of Cicero, IN, Evan Kikta and his wife, Jennifer of Umatilla, FL; his step daughters, Jennifer Marshall and her husband, Doug of Sartell, MN, Sarah Roush and her husband, Evan of Supply, NC; his grandchildren, Dustin Hobbs (Lindsay), Brandon Tyler Anderson, Nichole Angelicchio (Wesley); his great grandchildren, Alayna, Bentley, Albion

"Ali", Kennedy; his step grandchildren, Andrew, Benjamin, Nathan, Elizabeth, Mikko, Zeke, Heikke, Mielle, Avianna, Davian, Hanniah, Brody, Lilah, Caroline, Isaac, Elijah; his brothers, Allen Anderson and his wife, Marty of Columbus, IN, George Anderson (Rita) of Osgood, IN; his sisters, Elizabeth Foga and her husband, Terry of New Castle, IN, Kathy Bowman and her husband, Jessie of Crothersville, IN, Juanita Alexander and her husband, Larry of Greenwood, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father, Charles W. Anderson, his mother, Elise Fields Anderson, his son, Bradley Anderson, died Aug. 29, 2020, his brothers, Mike, Ernest, and Tim Anderson, and his sister, Genalee Downs.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 8, 2025, at 2 p.m., by Pastor Judy Howard-Stater at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Hanover, IN.

Interment followed in the Springdale Cemetery in downtown Madison, IN.

Friends could visit Monday, Dec. 8, 2025, from 12 - 2 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Hanover, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Covenant Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Hanover, and Madison. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Dennis R. Reed

Dennis R. Reed, 76, of Appleton, WI, passed away peacefully on Friday, Nov. 28, 2025, with his wife by his side, following a brave seven-month battle with an aggressive form of lung cancer.

Denny was born on Aug. 24, 1949, in Madison, IN, a son of the late Chester and Norma (Curry) Reed. He graduated from Madison Consolidated High School in 1967, and furthered his education at North Iowa Area Community College and Indiana State University, where he earned his degree in 1976.

A proud patriot, Denny served his country in both the United States Marine Corps and the Army National Guard, retiring after 26 years with a rank of First Sergeant.

While attending Indiana State University, Denny met Deborah K. Price, the love of his life. The couple was married on Sept. 23, 1978, in Farmersburg, IN. His career in the paper industry brought them to Appleton in 1982. Denny worked at various mills before dedicating 26 years of service to Kimberly-Clark, from which he retired. He was an avid Harley-Davidson rider who also enjoyed sharing his passion for sports with his children, actively coaching,



and cheering them on. He was a dedicated supporter of the Appleton East sport-ing community. His involvement began as President of the Patriot Athletic Club, and he went on to serve as an assistant coach for the baseball team for 13 years. Beyond coaching, he contributed by video-recording football games, refereeing volleyball matches, and operating the scoreboard for both boys' and girls' basketball games.

In his retirement, Denny cherished his time with family. He was his grandchildren's biggest fan, enjoying countless hours watching them play baseball, volleyball, and softball, and attending figure skating competitions. He and Deb also enjoyed vacationing with their family.

Denny is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Deborah; his children, Randall (Amanda) Reed of

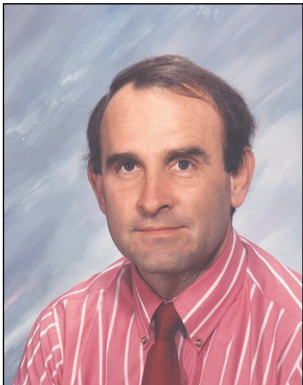
Cemetery near Carrollton. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Evelyn Ruth Bowman Smith, 83, of Patriot, IN, died Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025, at her residence. Funeral service is 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN, with interment in the Vevay Cemetery there, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Walter Sutherland Jr., 94, formerly of Worthville, KY, died Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025, in Warsaw, KY. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, KY, with burial at the Worthville Cemetery with military honors presented by Carrollton American Legion Post 41 and the United States Army Honor Guard, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Richard 'Rick' McLeod

Richard “Rick” McLeod, age 80, of North Vernon, passed away Friday, Dec. 5, 2025, surrounded by loved ones in the comfort of his home of 55 years. Rick was born on July 28, 1945, to James and Mary Jean McLeod. Rick attended St. Mary’s Catholic grade school, North Vernon High School, and went on to earn degrees in speech, and hearing sciences, as well as deaf education from Ball State University. Rick later completed his school administration license from Indiana University Southeast. He married his soul mate Ann McLeod (Ringer) in 1967. They were happily married for 54 years prior to her passing in 2021. Rick began his career as a teacher at the Indiana School for the Deaf in Indianapolis. He then was employed by Jennings County high school as the first special education teacher. Rick became director of the Diagnostic and Training Center (DTC) in Madison, IN, a special education program serving students with disabilities residing in seven different school corporations in southeastern Indiana. He held this position for 20 years. Rick then returned to work as a speech and hearing therapist for the Jennings County Schools until he



became the Director of Special Services for the corporation. Rick ended his career helping to run the Adolescent Classroom Education Training Center (ACEP) for the Jennings County School Corporation. Rick was a lifelong member of St. Mary’s Catholic church. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and volunteered for many years at St. Vincent De Paul. He was inducted into the Jennings County High School Alumni Hall of Fame in 2021, which honors inductees for their significant achievements in academics, athletics, and community service. Rick was an active supporter of the Special Olympics Indiana taking students who attended Jennings County Schools to Terre Haute each year to participate in the state games. He was also an active member of the ARC of Jennings County helping to support people with disabilities and

their families.

You could often see Rick out for his daily walks. He enjoyed fishing, collecting coins, and watching his grandson (Owen Miller) play football, basketball, and baseball, throughout Owen’s school years.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2025, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church. Fr. Chris Craig will officiate. Burial will follow at St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Sawyer – Pickett Funeral & Cremation Service has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Rick is survived by his children : Erika Downs (Jeff), Andy McLeod, both of North Vernon, two brothers, Jay McLeod, Mike McLeod (Jane), and grandchildren, Owen Miller (Caitlin), Bryce Downs (Hali Johnson), of North Vernon, Kaleb Downs of Seattle, Dylan and Matt McLeod of Bloomington, IN.

The family would like to thank the nurses of Schneck Hospice services that made it possible for Rick to live out his final days in the comfort of his own home.

Memorial donations can be made to Schneck Hospice Services or to the Special Olympics of Indiana through Sawyer – Pickett Funeral & Cremation Service.

Timothy Carroll 'Tim' Rector

Timothy Carroll "Tim" Rector, age 66, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Jan. 8, 1959, in Jefferson County, IN. He was the loving son of the late George Carroll and Laura Jean Patterson Tim died on Friday, Dec. 5, 2025, at 10:09 p.m., at the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital Emergency Room in Madison, IN.

Timothy will be missed by his loving wife of 16 years, Elizabeth Anne Bruce Moore of Madison, IN; his son, Michael Rector and his partner, Brittny McClintock of Madison, IN; his grandchildren, Kailyn Rector, Felicia Rector, Allie Rector, and Whitney Rector; his step daughters, Rebecca

Alexander and her husband, Jeff of Milton, KY, and Jennifer Mason and her husband, Monty of Madison, IN; his step grandchildren, Balie Adcock and Abby Mason; his step great grandchildren, Henlee and Elaine; his brother, George Rector of Princeton, TX, and his brother in law, Robert Bruce and his wife, JoAnna of TX; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George Carroll and Laura Jean Patterson Rector; his brother, Terry and his sister, Sue.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Pas-

tor Jacob Adcock at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow at a later date in the St. Patrick Cemetery, 305 West State Street in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Tim Rector Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS
MADISON COMMUNITY BAND
Clifty Falls Inn
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.
The Madison Community Band plays holiday favorites. Madison Performing Arts Foundation. Free. Donations appreciated.

HOLIDAY SHOWCASE MARKET
THE SPOT, 326 MULBERRY ST., MADISON
Friday, Dec. 12, 5-8 p.m.
Many local artists will display new paintings, along with lots of other goodies and treasures. Tapestry wall hangings, wood turner treasures including wooden bowls, gorgeous hand painted ornaments, and more. Featuring the art of Roy Boswell and Beverly Bruntz in the main gallery on display through December 23.

A JOLLY CHRISTMAS
Thomas Family Winery, 208 East Second St., Madison
Friday, Dec. 12, 6 p.m.
Performance by Stan Attenburger at 6 p.m, and Brook Reindollar and the Merry Makers at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds support the Salvation Army Winter Emergency Funds.

PLAY: YETI, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE
Hoosier Theater
209 Ferry St., Vevay
Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12 and 13, 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
Christmas comedy play. Admission \$12

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS
Musee de Venoge, 4085 SR 129, Vevay

Thiebaud Farmstead, 5147 East SR 56, Vevay
Saturday, Dec. 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Visit during “Country Christmas” and experience the warmth and joy of the holiday season at the Thiebaud Farmstead and Musee de Venoge. A mixture of hearth cooking, music, crafts and tasty treats will surely delight the senses.

THE CREATIVES
The SPOT, 326 Mulberry St., Madison
Sunday, Dec. 14, 1-3 p.m.
Come to explore multiple techniques including print-making, painting, and air dry clay to create hand printed wrapping paper, raw canvas gift tags and painted ornaments. All supplies provided, just come join in our merry-making afternoon! Register at Madtix. Donations for supplies are appreciated.

FUNDRAISER CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK
North Madison United Methodist Church
2235 Allen Street, Madison
Saturday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Open to the public. \$5 suggested donation for each cookie plate.

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK
331 East Main Street, Madison
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, Noon-1 p.m.
A food giveaway at the red door on east side of building. Bring your own bags. For more information, call 812-265-2157.

HOUSE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY
100 East Second Street, Madison
Tuesdays 5-7 p.m.; Fridays, 9-11 a.m.

A food giveaway and distribution at the Jefferson County House of Hope Food Pantry in downtown Madison. Please arrive at the pantry 15 minutes prior to closing to be served.

NORTH MADISON CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY
1400 East State Road 62
Saturday, Dec. 20, 8-10 a.m.
A food distribution at the church.
Free with no qualifications.

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS JESUS CLOTHES CLOSET
Trinity United Methodist Church
412 West Main Street, Madison
Mondays, 9-11 a.m.
Jesus Clothes Closet distributes free clothing to those in need.
For more information, call 812-866-4843.

SENIOR EVENTS HANOVER SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
Exercising: The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is offering free exercising at the Hanover Park Community Center on Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.
Lunch: The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is serving lunch at noon on Fridays at the Hanover Park Community Center.
Cost is \$5 and RSVP is required by calling 812-498-2894.

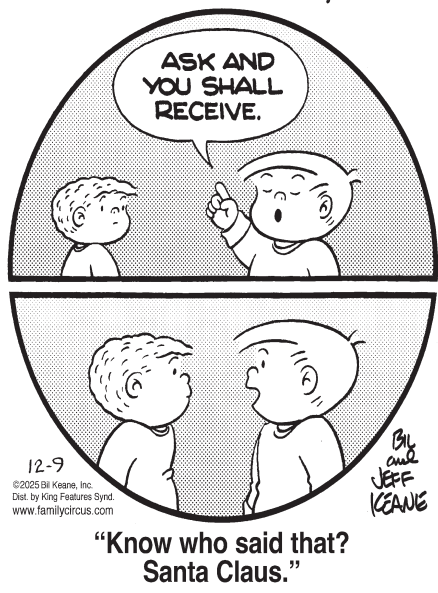
DEATH NOTICES

Gary Dwane Bonesteel Sr., 77, of Deputy, IN, died Friday, Dec. 5, 2025, at his residence in Deputy. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam era and served in the Army National Guard. Cremation was chosen with services at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery Chapel in Madison, IN, with interment there at the cemetery. A final salute with military honors will be presented by the Major Samuel Woodfill Madison Post 9 American Legion. Arrangements by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

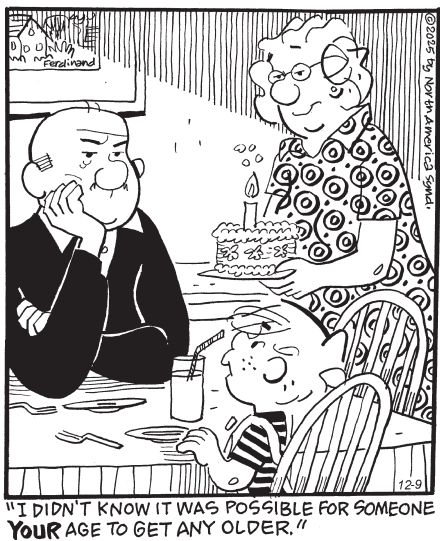
Barbara Ann Dunn, Carrollton, KY, 80, Louisville, KY, died Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025, in Louisville. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the English Christian Church in Carrollton, with interment will in the English

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



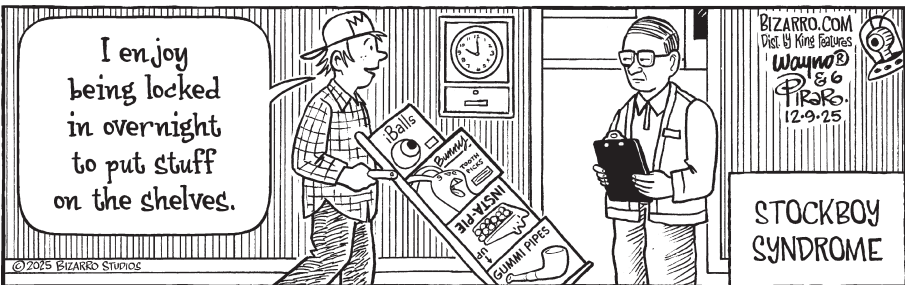
DENNIS THE MENACE



ARCTIC CIRCLE



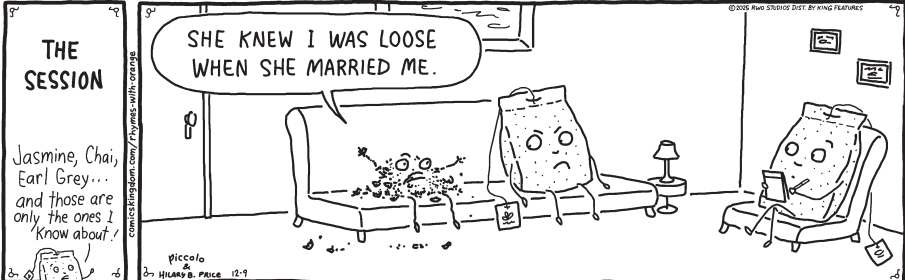
BIZARRO



BEETLE BAILEY



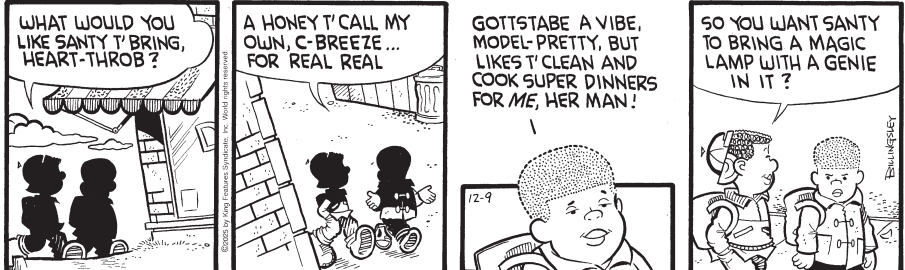
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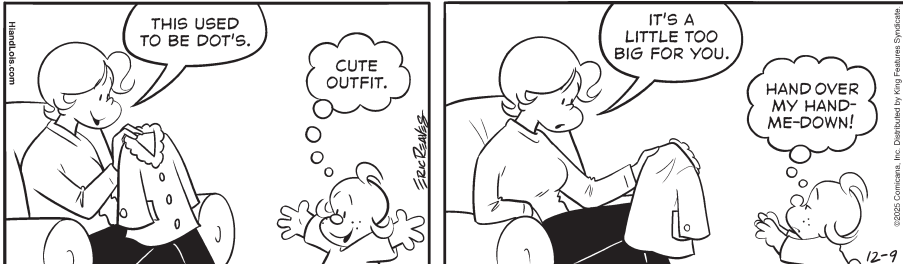
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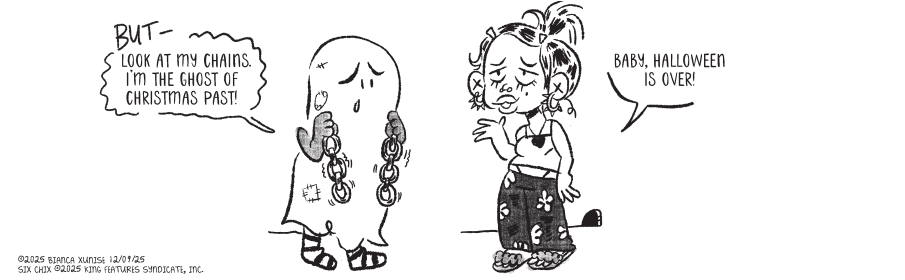
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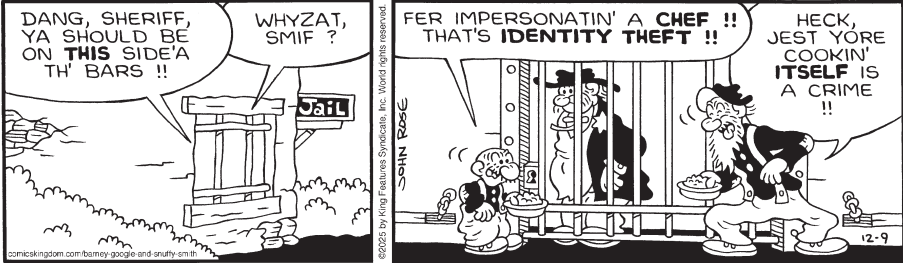
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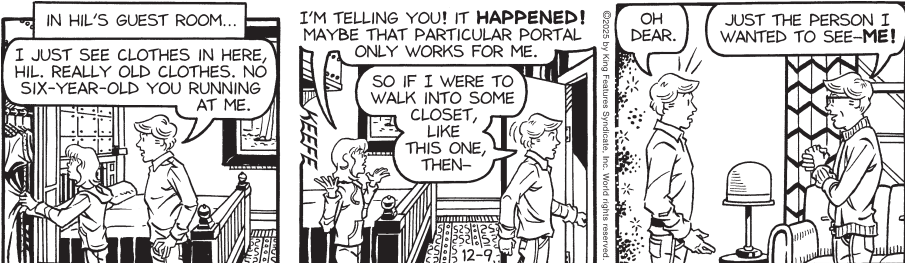
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BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



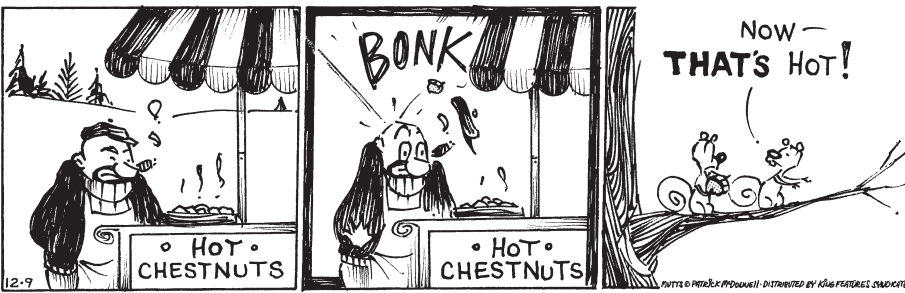
SALLY FORTH



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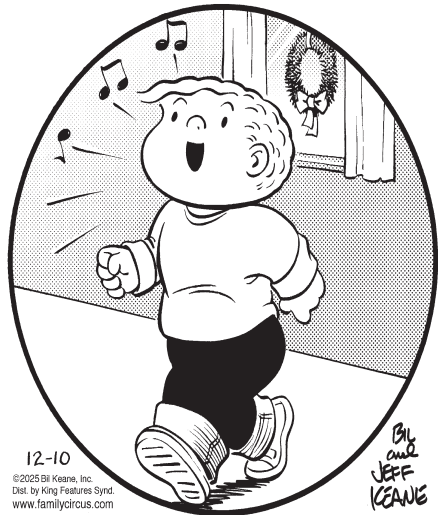


MUTTS



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Dashin' through the snow, inna one-horse soapin' sleigh..."

DENNIS THE MENACE



"SHE CAN'T WATCH ALL OF US...IF WE JUST SPREAD OUT MORE AT RECESS."

ARCTIC CIRCLE



BIZARRO



BEETLE BAILEY



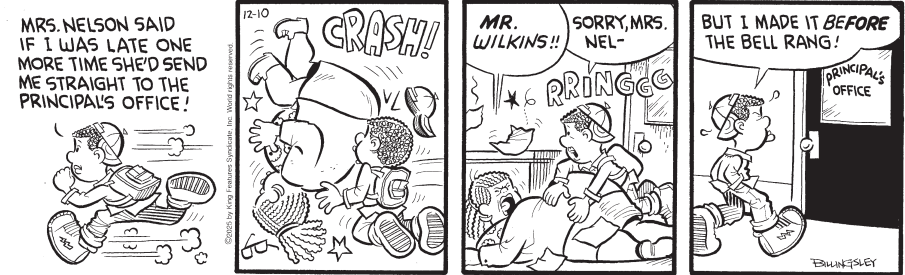
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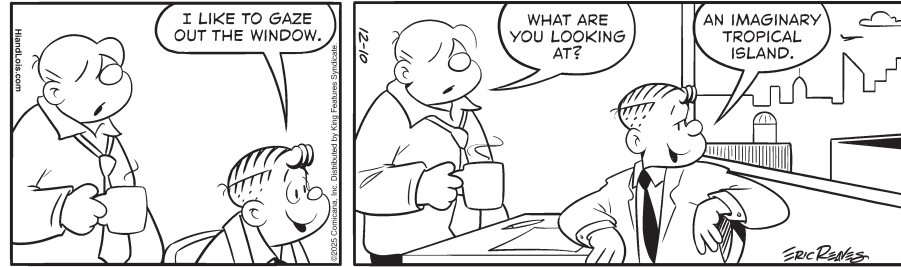
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PARDON MY PLANET



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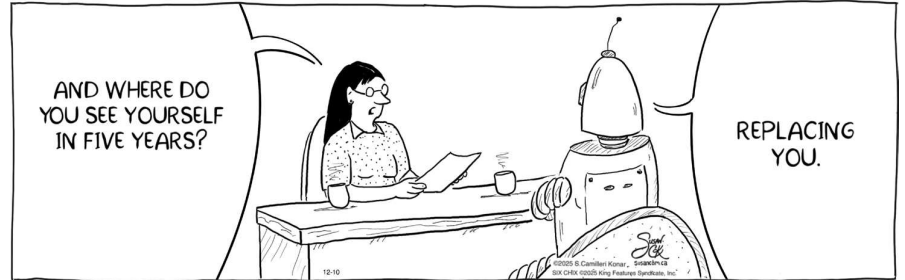
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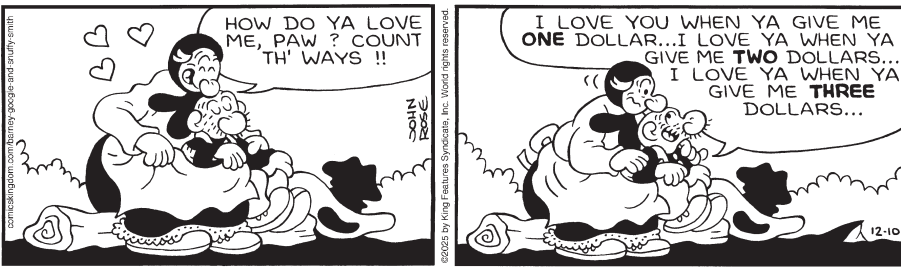
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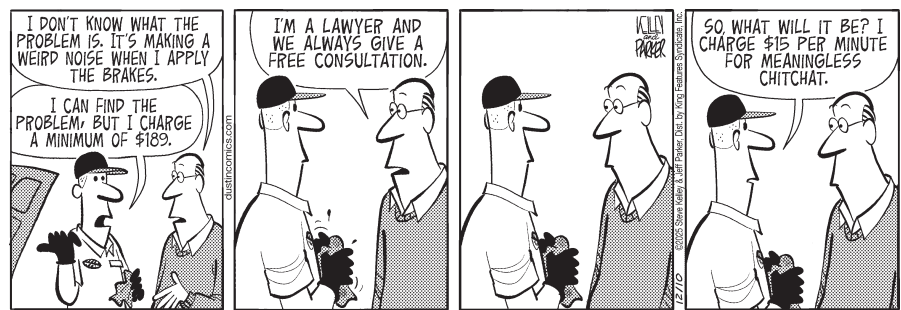
BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



SALLY FORTH



DUSTIN



MUTTS



HANOVER LIGHTS



Bob Demaree

Hanover College held a tree lighting event Monday for the evergreen at the corner of Madison Avenue and Main Street in Hanover. Students and community members gathered to enjoy hot chocolate and sing Christmas carols.

CASA of Jefferson County earns BBB Accredited Charity recognition

BY THE COURIER STAFF

CASA of Jefferson County has achieved accreditation as a BBB Accredited Charity, awarded by the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance. The BBB Wise Giving Alliance is a charity evaluation organization that assesses national charities based on 20 rigorous BBB Standards for Charity Accountability.

For a charity to build this essential trust, the initial step in accreditation systems, such as those overseen by the BBB Wise Giving Alliance, involves comprehensive disclosure. Charities must complete a detailed, secure questionnaire providing extensive information covering four critical areas: financial management, governance structure, results reporting, and fundraising practices. This foundational

step is crucial for any organization aiming to sustain trust and credibility. "Transparency means that stakeholders can trust the information provided and understand how results are achieved," said Whitney Roberts, executive director of CASA of Jefferson County. "This approach not only promotes confidence but also supports continuous improvement, making sure

CASA of Jefferson County evolves to meet future challenges effectively and responsibly." CASA of Jefferson County is a nonprofit organization that recruits, trains and supports CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers who advocate in the best interest of children who fall victim to neglect and abuse.

INTERLOCAL

FROM PAGE A1

been directed towards the city's PACE program but now a portion will go towards the Crystal Beach Aquatic Park. All three interlocal agreements are on the agenda for the County Council to consider at its meeting Tuesday. In other business, the Commissioners:

- Approved several 2026 appointments that included one-year terms to the safety committee (Heather White, Lindsey Wyne, Jon Green, Mike Glerum, Brian Amick, Josh Cline and Troy Hawkins) and the county employee insurance committee (Josh Taylor, Judi Terpening, Kim Judge, Kathy Sizemore, Jon Green,

Lindsey Wyne, Heather White and Bobby Little). Other appointments were Allen Manning, Mike Moore and Jane Rosenbarger to the Cemetery Board; John Schafer to the Alcoholic Beverage Board; Richard Hill to the Park Board; and Becky Law and Stacey Mathews to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals. Commissioners were appointed to the following boards — Bramer to Jefferson County Board of Tourism, Ron Lee to Southeastern Indiana Recycling District, Little to the Pauper Attorney Board, Bramer to the 911 Advisory Board and Lee to the Emergency Management Agency Board. Also, there were four appointments to the Health and Human Relations Commission — Bramer, Gigi Christie,

Amanda Chandler and Stephanie Godward. Patrick Magrath was reappointed county attorney for 2026. Brian Amick was named Jefferson County's representative on the Southeastern Indiana Regional Plan Commission.

- Approved a joint expense agreement on litigation on a claim with Custom Design Benefits which provides the county's general medical insurance.
- Approved an amendment to county's small purchase policy that increases that amount from \$500 to \$2,000. County Auditor Heather Huff said the increased amount was recommended by the State Board of Accounts due increased costs over the years.

COMMUNITY

FROM PAGE A1

of the wheel tax, substantive changes

Trimble continues dialogue on sharing EMS director with Henry

BY CINDY WARRICK
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Since being approached by Henry County last month with a proposal for the two counties to share an emergency management director position, Trimble Fiscal Court has been compiling numbers in an effort to give a clearer picture on what that share will involve. Considering all the retirement, health insurance and other benefits, mileage and office costs, the court agreed that at least a \$30,000 package would be required for Trimble to not to lose money on the arrangement. If such a proposal is

acceptable to Henry County, the cost sharing that has been determined could be incorporated into an interlocal agreement for Trimble County and Henry County to share that position pending additional details on the logistics of how that would move forward. The two counties already have an interlocal agreement for sharing an animal shelter, but in that situation each county appoints and funds its own shelter co-director. The next Trimble Fiscal Court meeting, the final regular meeting of 2025, is at 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 15.

SWITZ

FROM PAGE A1

and represented by Democrat Andre Carson. The new 7th District would contain just the northeastern corner of Marion County along with a variety of counties on the east-central part of the state including Hancock, Madison, parts of Delaware, Henry, Randolph and Wayne counties, extending south to the Ohio River to include Union, Franklin, Ripley, Dearborn, Ohio, Jefferson and Switzerland counties. Indianapolis and Marion County, currently covered by the 7th District, would be divided into four districts, falling partially into the 4th, 6th and 9th districts, along with the 7th District. Carson, 51, a Democrat, was first elected to serve the 7th District March 11, 2008, when he defeated Republican Jon Elrod in a special election after the death of his

grandmother, Julia Carson, who had represented the district for the previous decade. With Jefferson County currently in the 9th District, Republican Erin Houchin was elected to her first term in Congress in 2022. With redistricting, Houchin, of Washington County, would still be in the 9th District. In addition to Washington County, the new 9th District would include Morgan, Brown, Lawrence, Jackson, Scott, Orange, Crawford, Harrison, Floyd and Clark counties, and a portion of Marion County. In Friday's vote in the Indiana House of Representatives, 12 Republicans joined all Democrats in opposition. Among the Republicans voting in support of redistricting were Alex Zimmerman, Zach Payne and Garrett Bascom whose districts includes portions of Jefferson County. Zimmerman co-authored the bill with State Representative Ben Smaltz.

NEWS

FROM PAGE A2

Judith Handlon to Michael Qualls and Maguana Qualls, 2475 Forest Drive, Madison. Stephen Apple and Karla Apple to Derrek R. Rodriguez and Jessica A. Rodriguez, 403 Fairmount Drive, Madison. Fair Play Fire Company No. 1 and Fair Play Fire Engine & Hose Company to Jason J. Pattison and Julie F. Pattison, 3443+, 3493+ and 3501+ East State Road 56, Madison. House Hive LLC to Edward Cloud and Rebecca Cloud, 1237 Wells Drive, Madison. Kenneth L. Pineda (deceased) and Ashley Sabin to Ashley Sabin, 1006 Fairmount Farms Lane, Madison.

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Sports

Barron's shot at the buzzer lifts Shawe over Southwestern 47-44

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

Audrey Barron always wanted to sink a game-winner at the buzzer and on Friday she got her chance.

Barron's 3-pointer as time expired capped an impressive comeback and lifted Shawe to a 47-44 win over Southwestern in the girls' portion of a conference doubleheader at Shawe.

Shawe trailed by nine with five minutes to play and came all the way back to tie the game on two Barron free throws with 58 seconds to go.

Both teams had chances to go ahead in the final minute with Barron missing a shot with three seconds to go. But a turnover on the inbounds play gave the Shawe star another chance and she didn't miss twice.

"My teammates made a really great play and I just had to get the job done," Barron said. "I've always wanted to do something like that."

To say the final seconds were hectic would be an understatement. After Barron missed her off-balance shot, Southwestern called timeout to set up a final play with 2.7 seconds left and the game tied 44-44. Southwestern's Olivia Simpson and Shawe's Juliet Gardner got tangled up going for the pass with Gardner winning the battle to the ball. The freshman scooped the ball forward



David Campbell

Shawe's Audrey Barron (20) is mobbed by teammates Nora May, Brylee Liter and Odyssey Felix after hitting the game-winning buzzer beater to lift the Hilltoppers' to a 47-44 win over Southwestern.

to fellow freshman Brylee Liter, who quickly passed to Barron who fired up the shot as the horn sounded.

There was some debate on

whether Barron got the shot off in time, but the officials waved it good and a celebration ensued.

"The play of the game was Juliet

Gardner. We had fouls to give, so I told her, be aggressive in the timeout and she makes a play," Shawe coach

Drew Kring said. "I actually thought

she got fouled. It's a good thing they didn't call it for once. It bounces right to her and they get it to Audrey. Big time players make big time plays when we need them."

The game was a defensive battle throughout with neither team shooting better than 35% from the floor and turning the ball over a combined 27 times.

Still, Southwestern made enough plays that it was close to taking control of the game. After trailing 21-19 at the half, the Rebels took a 34-28 lead after three quarters and pushed the advantage to nine (42-33) with five minutes to go on three free throws by Mikayla Nussbaum.

But the Rebels scored only one basket the rest of the way — a Simpson layup with 1:08 to go — and Shawe began its comeback.

"I thought we played well on defense. We beat them on the boards. For whatever reason, we just stopped doing what got us the lead," Southwestern coach Brain Crank said.

Shawe (5-2, 20 Ohio River Valley) began its comeback with a Hunter Mote basket with 4:42 to go and chipped away with back-to-back treys by Mote and Barron to take a 43-42 lead with 1:38 to play.

Simpson followed with a quick layup to put Southwestern back on

SEE BARRON/PAGE B3

No. 2 Indiana tops No. 1 Ohio State to win Big Ten title

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — From the moment Curt Cignetti took Indiana's head coaching job, he made it clear this would be a different program.

He refused to tolerate any moral victories or close calls and instead expected to win, to win big and win immediately.

In just 737 days, he turned what had been the Football Bowl Sub-division's losingest program into the nation's No. 1 seed heading into the playoffs, a legitimate championship contender and a Big Ten champion for the first time since 1967.

"I think we were a year late," he joked as the trophy presentation began following Saturday night's 13-10 win over No. 1 Ohio State.

To the rest of the college football world, Cignetti's incredible turnaround has come so quickly, it's likely to lift the expectations of every program in America.

He took over a team that had endured three consecutive losing seasons since qualifying for a bowl game and brashly dared anyone who thought he couldn't win to Google him. The former Nick Saban assistant delivered quickly, winning a school record 11 games and taking the Hoosiers to their first playoff appearance in Year 1.

The doubters didn't think Cignetti or the Hoosiers could come anywhere near replicating that kind of success this season.

But they've been even better in 2025. At 13-0, the Hoosiers are the last unbeaten team in major college football and have their first outright championship since 1945.

By beating the Buckeyes (12-1) in Indianapolis, they ended the nation's longest active winning streak at 16 and the Big Ten's longest winning streak in a series. When they beat then No. 3 Oregon (11-1) in October, they ended the nation's longest active regular season winning streak and the nation's longest active home winning streak.

In between they shed the label of FBS' losingest program, gladly



Michael Conroy

Indiana head coach Curt Cignetti holds up the championship trophy after the Big Ten championship NCAA college football game against Ohio State in Indianapolis, Saturday, Dec. 6.

handing the title to Northwestern. And now they have their first win over Ohio State since 1988, snapping a 30-year losing streak by winning their first conference crown in more than half a century.

Not enough? Cignetti earned his second straight Big Ten Coach of the Year Award this week, Fernando Mendoza became the first Hoosier to be named the Big Ten's top quarterback since 2001, and Mendoza also appears poised to become the first Indiana player to win the Heisman Trophy after adding two more signature moments to his resume.

His perfectly placed 17-yard TD pass to Elijah Sarratt on the sideline gave Indiana a 13-10 lead midway through the third quarter, and he sealed the win with an incredible 33-yard pass to Charlie Becker on third down with about two minutes to go — all after getting hurt on the first play of the game.

"Although I got hit, I never was



AJ Mast

Indiana's Fernando Mendoza celebrates after the Big Ten championship NCAA college football game against Ohio State in Indianapolis, Saturday, Dec. 6.

going to stay down," Mendoza said. "I'd die for my brothers on that field."

Naturally, the brash-talking Cignetti went for it, too, and Mendoza made

him look like a genius.

"I wasn't going to play not to lose," Cignetti said.

SEE OHIO /PAGE B3

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, DEC. 9 BASKETBALL

Shawe boys host Madison Christian, 7 p.m.
Madison girls host New Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Shawe girls at Hauser, 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern girls at Milan, 7:30 p.m.
Switzerland Co. girls host Franklin Co., 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Madison at Floyd Central, 6 p.m.
Southwestern hosts Shawe, South Ripley, 6 p.m.

WRESTLING

Madison girls at Columbus North, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10 BASKETBALL

Trimble Co. boys host Dayton, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING

Southwestern boys host Charleston, 6 p.m.
Switzerland Co. boys host Madison, 6 p.m.
Switzerland Co. girls host Madison, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 11 BASKETBALL

Southwestern girls at New Washington, 6:30 p.m.
Carroll Co. girls host Gallatin Co., 7:30 p.m.
Shawe girls at South Ripley, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Madison at Greensburg, 6 p.m.
Southwestern hosts Shawe, Providence, Rising Sun, 6 p.m.
Switzerland Co. hosts Oldenburg, South Ripley, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 12 BASKETBALL

Trimble Co. girls at Henry Co., 6 p.m.
Carroll Co. boys hosts Gallatin, 7:30 p.m.
Madison boys host South Dearborn, 7:30 p.m.
Shawe boys at Jac-Cen-Del, 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern boys host New Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Switzerland Co. boys host Rising Sun, 7:30 p.m.
Trimble Co. boys at Henry Co., 7:30 p.m.

Southwestern shrugs off slow start to hammer Shawe 78-34

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

Southwestern got off to an uncharacteristically slow start in its ORVC tilt at Shawe on Friday, forcing coach Zac Nussbaum to call two timeouts in the game's first four minutes to sort things out.

But once the Rebels got on track, it was smooth sailing as Southwestern rolled to a 78-34 win in boys basketball in the Ohio River Valley Conference opener for both teams.

Not known as a fiery coach, the Rebel mentor made sure that his team knew how displeased he was with the slow start.

"I was a little disappointed with our focus," Nussbaum said, able to smile about it later. "I had to take two timeouts in the first

four minutes. But once we got that figured out, we were good."

Southwestern had several missed shots and turnovers in the game's first four minutes to find itself in a 7-7 tie with the younger out-manned Hilltoppers.

But coming out of that second timeout, the Rebels were a different team. Attacking the rim and playing aggressively on defense, Southwestern closed the first quarter on a 13-1 blitz to go up 20-8 and then turned the game into a rout in the second quarter, leading 43-17.

Shawe coach Dan Hambrick was pleased with his team's play, especially early, but knew that holding back the talented Rebels

SEE SHRUGS /PAGE B3



Southwestern's Brady Cook (5) attempts to poke the ball away from Shawe's Gus Grote during the Rebels' win on the road on Friday.

David Campbell

HANOVER ROUNDUP

Panther men outlast Franklin in physical battle

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Hanover pulled away down the stretch to post a 74-65 win over rival Franklin at home in men's HCAC basketball on Saturday. The Panthers led by only one with less than six minutes to play but outscored the Grizzlies by eight the rest of the way to claim the victory.

C.J. Walls had scored points to lead Hanover while Cam Freeman had 15 points and Jack Miller posted a double-double of 10 points and 12 rebounds. Malachi McNair added nine points for the Panthers.

Hanover, now 4-3 overall and 1-1 in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, has the week off for finals and will travel to Manchester on Saturday.

WOMEN LOSE AT BUZZER

Franklin hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to beat Hanover 67-65 in women's basketball Saturday at Collier Arena.

Hanover led by nine with just over six minutes to play in the game before Franklin mounted a comeback, capped by Briley Munchel's 3-pointer at the buzzer to win it.

Kaitlyn Lorenzi had 22 points and 13 rebounds to lead Hanover,



David Campbell

Hanover's Jack Miller fires a 3-pointer in the Panthers' win over Franklin at home on Saturday.

Alexis Wines had 18 points and Sammy Berman scored 10 points and had five assists.

Hanover, now 5-2 overall and 1-1 HCAC, travels to Manchester on Saturday.

TRACK OPENS SEASON AT ROSE

Hanover's track & field teams opened the 2025-26 indoor season



David Campbell

Hanover's Cam Freeman (1) battles for the ball with Franklin's Braylon Russell during the Panthers' win at home on Saturday.

with a meet at Rose-Hulman on Saturday.

Only a handful of athletes

competed in the event for Hanover, which placed third in the men's meet with 20 points and third in

the women's meet with nine.

SEE PANTHER /PAGE B3

Madison swimmers sweep Lawrenceburg Invite

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison's swim teams swept to victory in the nine-team Lawrenceburg Invitational on Saturday.

The Cubs scored 304 points to win the girls event and 229 to edge Batesville by five points and win the boys event. No individual results for Madison were available.

Southwestern's girls placed fourth with 138 points and the boys were ninth with eight. Shawe's boys finished eighth with 32 points and the girls were ninth with 11.

Southwestern's Natalee Crawford won two races in the girls meet, claiming the 200-yard individual medley in 2:28.87 and the 100 backstroke in 1:01.45. Shawe's Matthew Vaughn also won two events in the boys meet, taking the 200 freestyle in 1:55.19 and the 100 freestyle in 51.07.

Other top finishes for the Southwestern girls were: Riley Crawford, second, 50 free, 28.55 and fourth, 100 free, 1:04.04; Riley Crawford, Alexis Dean-Wells, Haylee Crawford and Natalee Crawford, third, 400 free relay, 4:26.78; Natalee Crawford, Adalei Watson, Riley Crawford and Haylee Crawford, fourth, 200 medley relay, 2:17.14; and Watson, fifth, 500 free, 7:32.00.

Shawe's Taytum Gray placed ninth in the girls 50 freestyle in 31.05 and ninth in the 100 freestyle in 1:11.68. Southwestern's Brady Bowman was ninth in the boys 50 freestyle in 29.99 and ninth in the 100 breaststroke in 1:30.58.

On Tuesday, Madison swept past Batesville and Jennings County on the road

with the girls claiming wins in every event.

Lilly Canida, Tayleigh Johnson and Ava Canida each won two individual races for the Madison girls, Lilly Dattilo and Alejandra Schutte both had an individual first and second place finishes, Dattilo, Schutte, Lilly Canida and Ava Canida won the 200 medley relay, Johnson, Kira Brittain, Schutte and Sarah Ricketts won the 200 freestyle relay, Dattilo, Ava Canida, Johnson and Lilly Canida won the 400 freestyle relay, and Ricketts and Brittain each had second place finishes.

For the Madison boys, William Overpeck and Garrett Klein each had two individual first place finishes, Trenton Schafer took home one a first and a second, Cole Goodknight, Overpeck, Klein and Schafer won the medley relay, Klein, Overpeck, Goodknight and Owain Kelsey won the 400 free relay, Goodknight had two second place finishes, Kelsey, Brayden Featherstone, Jack Kernen and Schafer were second in the 200 freestyle relay, Kernen and Kelsey both had an individual second place finish as well as third place finishes, and Featherstone had a third.

Madison heads to Floyd Central on Tuesday and to Greensburg on Thursday. Southwestern hosts Shawe and South Ripley on Tuesday and Shawe, Providence and Rising Sun on Thursday before competing at Seymour on Saturday.

WRESTLING ROUNDUP

Bentz, Deuser go undefeated to lead Madison boys at Jeff Duals

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison's wrestlers went 0-6 over two days at the very tough Jeffersonville Duals.

The Cubs lost a hard-fought decision to host Jeffersonville 73-66 on Friday. Then on Saturday, Madison lost to Columbus East 63-9, Floyd Central 64-16, Heritage Hills 54-22, Mount Vernon 56-22 and East Central 53-16.

Brendan Bentz (165 pounds) and Garrett Deuser (215) both won all six of their matches to lead Madison while Drew Zuckschwerdt (126) went 1-0. Zane Skinner (157) was 5-1, Segar Ralston (150) went 3-1, Ethan Pittman (132) went 2-4 and Zane Craig (120) was 1-5.

Madison heads to Switzerland County on Wednesday and competes in the Columbus North Invitational on Saturday.

LADY CUBS WRESTLE IN OHIO

Madison's girls wrestling team competed in an invitational at Western Brown High School in Ohio on Saturday.

Facing a field of 49 schools and with only nine wrestlers, Madison finished seventh overall in an impressive performance.

Maylie Skinner went 4-1 and placed second in her weight class with a win over a state runner-up along the way. Bella Zuckschwerdt also went 4-1 and placed third with her only loss to a state finisher last year.

Maya Bullock went 3-2 and finished fourth with a win over a state medalist and Kearston Phillips, Hannah Ferguson and Yuliana Gomez each went 2-2.

Madison travels to Columbus North on Tuesday and to Switzerland County on Wednesday. The Cubs then compete in the Indian Creek Invitational on Saturday.

BOYS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Madison drops road games at Jennings, Corydon

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison boys basketball hit the road for a pair of games over the weekend and came away with losses in both.

On Friday, Madison suffered an 80-56 loss at Jennings County. No details from the game were available.

On Saturday, Madison made the long trip to Corydon and dropped a 72-53 decision.

Freshman Braysen Russell scored 19 points to lead Madison, fellow freshman Gavin Barnes had 17 points and five rebounds and Gabe Fife had 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Madison, now 0-3 on the season, hosts South Dearborn on Friday and hosts Class 3A No. 3 Brownstown on Saturday.

TRIMBLE LOSES TO CALVARY

Trimble County suffered a 57-47 loss at home to Calvary Christian on Friday.

Freshman Drake Pennix and sophomore Hudson Jent scored 14 points each to lead Trimble County.

Trimble, now 0-2 on the season, traveled to Frankfort Christian on Monday, hosts Dayton on Wednesday and heads to Henry County on Friday.

PACERS FALL AT CLARKSVILLE

Switzerland County was on the wrong end of a 60-52 score at Clarksville on Friday.

No details from the game were available.

Switzerland, now 0-2 on the season, hosts Rising Sun on Friday.

CARROLL SPLITS TWO GAMES

Carroll County's boys basketball team opened the season with a win and a loss late last week.

The Panthers defeated Cornerstone Christian 59-33 in the season opener on the road on Thursday but lost 53-50 to Ludlow on the road on Saturday. No details from either game was available.

Carroll, now 1-1 on the season, travels to Eminence on Tuesday and hosts Gallatin County on Thursday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Carroll opens season with three-straight wins

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Carroll County girls basketball opened the 2025-26 season with three wins in as many days last week.

On Wednesday, the Panthers traveled to Kentucky Country Day and came away with a 59-45 win. Eighth-grader Mya Hall led Carroll with a double-double of 13 points and 11 rebounds, Brooklyn Rose scored 10 and Reilyn Winburn and Josie Dale each had nine.

On Thursday, Carroll defeated Highlands Latin 60-40 at home and on Friday, the Panthers knocked off Holmes 66-44, also at home.

Carroll was led by Rose with 15 points against Latin while Dale scored 10, Lyra McKinney had 9 and Hemi Dickerson 8.

No details were available on the win over Holmes.

Carroll, now 3-0, traveled to Eminence on Monday and hosts Gallatin County on Thursday in a pair of 31st District seed games.

TRIMBLE LOSES TO WALTON-VERONA

Trimble County lost a close 69-63 decision at home to Walton-Verona on Saturday.

Ainslie Stark scored 20 points to lead Trimble while Kendra Mahoney had 17 points and Claire Liter scored 10.

Trimble, now 1-1 on the season, travels to Henry County on Friday and hosts North Oldham on Saturday.

PACERS FALL AT CAI

Switzerland County had its three-game win streak snapped with a 57-41 loss at Christian Academy of Indiana on Saturday.

No details from the game were available. Switzerland, now 4-3 on the season, hosts Franklin County on Tuesday and travels to Shawe on Saturday.

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BEFORE

AFTER

CRACKS IN THE BASEMENT?

SHRUGS

FROM PAGE B1

was going to be a difficult task.

"Southwestern is always going to be a tough, tough team to play. But I'm going to look back at the first four minutes of the ballgame and that's about as good of a start as we can have," Hambrick said. "We knew that we couldn't get into a running game with this team. They've got a great team. We're at that year that I knew was coming about three years ago, where I don't have the Philip Kahn and I don't have the Braiden Smith. We've got juniors that are not used to being in that key role. So it's going to be a find-yourself year. So as long as we keep our train on the tracks, keep battling for 32 minutes, that's all I can ask."

Southwestern did whatever it wanted against an inexperienced Shawe team, shooting 59% from the floor overall, hitting 8-of-18 3-pointers attempted, forcing 23 turnovers and holding a 28-15 advantage in rebounding. The final three and a half quarters went the way the team expected.

"The beauty of coaching every year is each team's a new team. You have to kind of mold and develop and learn how to match," Nussbaum said. "Obviously, we were thrown a curveball there in the first game with Braxton (Lewis) getting hurt. It makes it a little bit difficult, but because he was our floor

general, so now we got to figure that out. It's tough to have a conference game this early on, but to get that first conference win is a great thing."

Lewis, the Rebels' senior point guard, broke his hand during the first quarter of the Turkey Shootout season opener against Madison and will be out the rest of the month. Brady Cook had 13 points, Caleb Goode and Luke Morrow scored 12 points each and Jeter Chatham had 11 points to lead Southwestern. Chatham also had eight rebounds and five assists for an impressive all-around game.

"He just does everything. He plays harder than everybody else and makes the right play," Nussbaum said of Chatham. "The best way to explain him is he's a winner. He's gonna do whatever he needs to do to win."

No Shawe player reached double-figures with Cavaan Hambrick and Joseph Hart leading the way with seven points each and Gus Grote scoring six.

On Saturday, Southwestern traveled to Columbus East and fell 72-55. Cook had 15 points and six rebounds for the Rebels, Chatham had 14 points and eight rebounds, Goode had nine points and four rebounds, Quinton Lewis scored nine points and Andrew Nussbaum had eight points and four assists.

Shawe, now 1-3 overall and 0-1 ORVC, hosts Christian Academy of Madison on Tuesday and travels to Jac-Cen-Del on Friday.

Southwestern, now 2-1



David Campbell

Southwestern's Jeter Chatham (right) shoots over Shawe's Loren Stiver during the Rebels' win on the road on Friday.

overall and 1-0 ORVC, hosts and heads to Batesville on New Washington on Friday Saturday.



AJ Mast

Indiana head coach Curt Cignetti celebrates with Indiana University President Pamela Whitten after the Big Ten championship NCAA college football game against Ohio State in Indianapolis, Saturday, Dec. 6.

OHIO

FROM PAGE B1

How good has Indiana been during his two-year tenure?

They are now 24-2, the only losses coming at Ohio State and at Notre Dame last season, the two teams that played in the national championship game. Cignetti and his players have each spoken about what they learned from those experiences and how it helped steel them for the mission they've been on this season, and he's already had his contract extended twice.

Indiana heads into the playoffs with an offense and defense ranked the top five

in scoring and that managed to beat Ohio State at its usual game — physically playing keep away, wearing down opponents and holding them out of the end zone.

Now a new journey begins for Cignetti and a school far more renowned for winning national titles in men's basketball, men's soccer and swimming and diving. Football has never come close — until now. And these Hoosiers believe they have what it takes to continue what seemed unthinkable just two years ago.

"It means a lot, we played for each other," linebacker Isaiah Jones said of winning the championship. "For any of the doubters out there, this was the final nail in the coffin."



Michael Conroy

Indiana head coach Curt Cignetti holds the championship trophy after the Big Ten championship NCAA college football game against Ohio State in Indianapolis, Saturday, Dec. 6.



AJ Mast

Indiana's Fernando Mendoza celebrates after the Big Ten championship NCAA college football game against Ohio State in Indianapolis, Saturday, Dec. 6.



David Campbell

Shawe's Jamison Williams (left) and Hunter Mote (center) battle with Southwestern's Rorie Scroggins for a rebound during the Hilltoppers' win on Friday at Meny Gym in Madison.

BARRON

FROM PAGE B1

top and Barron hit one of two free throws to tie the game 44-44 with 58 seconds to go.

Southwestern (44,0-1 ORVC) had two chances to go ahead in the final minute. Nussbaum missed a 3-pointer that Simpson rebounded to keep the possession alive. After a timeout, the Rebels missed another shot and Shawe got its chance.

Southwestern doubleteamed and harassed Barron from the inbounds and the result was a long, off-balance 3-point attempt that missed with three seconds left, giving the Rebels another chance. But Southwestern turned the ball over on the inbounds with Barron then hitting the game-winner.

"We knew that (Southwestern) was going to be physical. We knew that they were going to get into Audrey. We knew they were going to get into Hunter. I ask so much of those two, it's almost unreasonable sometimes," Kring said. "We just found ways to stay in it and at some point in time, we were going to make a play. And we did."

Barron finished the game with 34 points on 10-of-20 shooting while Mote had 12 as the two seniors combined for 46 of Shawe's 47 points.

Rorie Scroggins had 12 points and eight rebounds for Southwestern while Baleigh McAfee had 11 points and 10 rebounds. Nussbaum scored nine points and Simpson had nine rebounds and four steals to go with two points.

Shawe heads to Hauser on Tuesday and to South Ripley on Thursday before hosting Switzerland County on Saturday — the latter two contests figuring heavy in the Hilltoppers' quest to repeat as ORVC champions.

Southwestern travels to Milan on Tuesday and to New Washington on Thursday before hosting South Central on Saturday.



LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Jefferson Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Indiana, in Cause No. 39C01-2502-MF-000151, wherein Freedom Mortgage Corporation was Plaintiff, and The Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Thomas James Scroggins III, Deceased and State of Indiana were Defendants, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 22nd day of January, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 1150 JA Berry Ln, Madison, IN 47250, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jefferson County, Indiana.

Lot Number Seventeen (17) in Wolf Trails Subdivision, which plat was recorded July 19, 1994 in Plat Book 2, Page 189, in the Office of the Recorder of Jefferson County, Indiana.

More commonly known as 1969 Wolf Trails Dr, Madison, IN 47250-1985
Parcel No. 39-08-28-124-025.000-007

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

/s/ BRYAN K. REDMOND
BRYAN K. REDMOND, Plaintiff Attorney
Attorney # 22108-29
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Ben Flint, Sheriff
Madison Township
The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.

SERVICE DIRECTED TO:
The Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Thomas James Scroggins III, Deceased
1969 Wolf Trails Dr
Madison, IN 47250-1985
Service Type: Publication

NOTICE
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C., IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.

PANTHER

FROM PAGE B2

Top finishes for the Hanover men were: Sean Woods, first, pole vault, 4.35 meters; Alex Bower, second, long jump, 5.98m and second, triple jump, 11.58m; Tommy Wilmouth, second, shot put, 16.00m and second, weight throw, 15.12m; Layden Adair, fourth, 60 dash, 7.24 and fourth, 200 dash, 23.88; Jayden Enderle, fourth, 400 dash, 53.22; and Noah Armstrong, fifth, weight throw, 12.21m.

Finishes for the Hanover women were: Cheyeanna Leslie, first, shot put, 11.16m and third, weight throw, 10.52m; Sophia Goins-Small, fourth, pole vault, 2.05m; Lily Smith, fourth, long jump, 4.49m and seventh, 400 dash, 1:08.58; and Clare Endris, eighth, shot put, 7.88m.

Hanover's next meet will be on Jan. 16, back at Rose-Hulman.

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT) SS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON) ESTATE NUMBER 39C01-2512-EU-000090

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE)
OF MARSHALL HALL, DECEASED.)

DEVON M. SHARPE, Jenner, Pattison & Sharpe,
307 Jefferson Street, Madison, IN 47250; (812) 265-5132

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARSHALL HALL, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that Lori Slygh was, on the 1st day of December, 2025, appointed personal representative of the estate of Marshall Hall, deceased, who died on the 17th day of November, 2025. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Madison, Indiana, this 1st day of December, 2025

/s/ Tabatha Eblen
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, IN
SEAL



LEGAL NOTICE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior Court of Jefferson County, Indiana, in Cause No. 39D01-2210-MF-000857 wherein loan Depot.com, LLC was Plaintiff, and Donald Gray, et al., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 22 day of January, 2026, at the hour of 10am or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 1150 JA Berry Ln, Madison, IN 47250, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jefferson County, Indiana.

BEING PART OF LOT NUMBER EIGHTY-FIVE (85), OLD TOWN, NOW CITY OF MADISON. COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT FORMED BY THE WEST LINE OF WALNUT STREET AND THE SOUTH LINE OF THE ALLEY RUNNING EAST AND WEST BETWEEN SECOND AND MAIN STREET; THENCE SOUTH BY AND WITH THE WEST LINE OF WALNUT STREET TWENTY-FIVE (25) FEET; THENCE WEST PARALLEL SOUTH LINE OF SAID ALLEY EIGHTY-FOUR (84) FEET; THENCE NORTH PARALLEL WITH WALNUT STREET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID ALLEY; THENCE EAST BY AND WITH SAID SOUTH LINE OF SAID ALLEY TO WALNUT STREET, THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS AND RIGHT-OF-WAY OF RECORD.

More commonly known as: 313 Walnut St, Madison, IN 47250
Parcel No. 39-13-02-132-001.000-007
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.
"Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause No. 39D01-2210-MF-000857 in the Circuit/Superior Court of the County of Jefferson, Indiana."

Plaintiff Attorney:
Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)
Christopher J. Arlinghaus (31680-15)
Aaron Rodgers (28418-84)
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC
3962 Red Bank Road
Cincinnati, OH 45227
Voice: (513) 322-7000
Facsimile: (513) 322-7099

Ben Flint, Sheriff of Jefferson County
Township

SHERIFF FILE NO.
313 Walnut St, Madison, IN 47250 Street Address

SERVICE DIRECTED TO:
The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein

Donald Gray 313 Walnut St
Madison, IN 47250

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Who's No. 1? Top-ranked Purdue's loss opens the door for a change atop the AP poll

BY JOHN MARSHALL
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

TUCSON, Ariz. — In the waning seconds of a blowout win, fans at Arizona's McKale Center started a chant of “Number 1!”

The second-ranked Wildcats can certainly make a case with Saturday night's dismantling of No. 20 Auburn and top-ranked Purdue's first loss of the season.

Then again, Michigan can also stake a claim to No. 1. So can Duke. What about Iowa State?

“Obviously, it's not something you shy away from,” Arizona coach Tommy Lloyd said after the 97-68 win over Auburn. “You're at Arizona, you're going to be on the big stage and it's part and parcel being in a program like this.”

The 2025-26 college basketball season is off to an epic start with ready-made-star freshmen across the country and top programs' willingness to schedule tough early games.

The season kicked off with a flourish in Las Vegas, where Arizona took down reigning national champion Florida and has been dotted with marquee matchups almost every day, sometimes multiple games in one day.

There's already been three dozen games between ranked teams — 10 just last week —

and the Thanksgiving Day game between Duke and Arkansas was the most-watched regular-season game in the last 30 years.

And this is only the first week in December.

Purdue had been the standard, opening as the preseason No. 1 in the AP

SEE LOSS/PAGE B6



Arizona guard Brayden Burries (5) reacts after scoring against Auburn during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game, Saturday, Dec. 6, in Tucson, Ariz.

Rick Scuteri

LEGAL NOTICE

Cupertino Electric Inc (1132 N. 7th Street, San Jose, CA 95112) is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of Construction Stormwater General Permit to discharge stormwater from construction activities associated with Williams BESS Project located at 4000 N. Paper Mill Rd, Madison, Indiana 47250 . Run-off from the project site will discharge to the Ohio River. Please direct questions to Cupertino Electric Inc at 408-591-8627 or by email at Ibrahim_Kambal@cei.com

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LEGAL NOTICE

Hanover Township Board will meet on the December 18, 2025, 5:00 P.M. at the Hanover Community Park Building at 200 Spruce Lane in Hanover, In. 47243. We will be having a guest from our Insurance Agency to discuss our policies for 2026. This will be the final meeting for the year.
Lucy J. Anderson
Hanover Township Trustee

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated School Corporation
Notice of Proposed Additional Appropriations
Notice is hereby given that the Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated School Corporation Board of School Trustees will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 5:00 P.M. EST in the Board Room located at 273 South Main Cross Street; Hanover, IN. to consider an additional appropriation of \$12,800,796 for the Education Fund and \$4,026,091 for the Operations Fund for the 2026 Budget. The proposed additional appropriations are necessary to fund the 2026 Budget. After Board approval this will be sent to the Department of Local Government and Finance for final approval of the 2026 Budget. All interested taxpayers are invited to attend the Public Hearing and express their views on the proposed additional appropriations.
Laura Boldery
Chief Financial Officer
Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated School Corporation
239 South Main Cross Street
Hanover, IN 47243

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
NO. 48C03-2511-EU-000497

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, INDIANA
Notice is hereby given that Stephanie Thompson was, on the 9th day of November, 2025 appointed personal representative of the estate of Tina Nanette Amburn deceased, who died on the 22nd day of October, 2025, leaving a will. The estate will be administered without court supervision.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Anderson, Indiana, this 18th day of November, 2025.

/s/Linda S. Smith
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Madison County, Indiana [SEAL]

COCKERILL & COCKERILL
235 South Meridian Street
P. O. Box 247
Winchester, IN 47394
(765) 584-3241
Attorneys for Estate

MADISON COURIER

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'No heart': Cousins slams No. 18 Kentucky Wildcats after a brutal loss

BY TERESA M. WALKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The 18th-ranked Kentucky Wildcats have lost consecutive games and three of their last five. Worse, they are struggling to shoot.

Panic is bubbling up in the Bluegrass State.

Fans booed the Wildcats off the court at halftime Friday night and headed to the exits before Kentucky's miserable and ugly 94-59 loss to No. 11 Gonzaga that dropped the Wildcats to 5-4.

Onetime Kentucky one-and-done star DeMarcus Cousins didn't hold back on his opinion on social media: "Can't lie...this uk team has no heart! This is hard to watch smh"

Kentucky coach Mark Pope took no issue with Cousins' opinion and took the blame to himself.

"As a former player, I'm pissed at the coach too, and that's just all deserved," Pope said. "There's nothing inappropriate about what he said at all."

The Wildcats missed their first 10 shots and first seven outside the arc. The Wildcats shot so poorly that Gonzaga's Graham Ike made more buckets inside the arc (10) than Kentucky (nine). Kentucky wound up 16 of 60 (26.7%) and 7 of 34 (20.6%) from 3-point range.



George Walker IV/AP photo

Kentucky fans boo during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game against Gonzaga, Friday, Dec. 5 in Nashville, Tenn.

Asked if Wildcats were trying to do too much to help, Pope said it was more being indecisive: "It's all coming from me. It's on me."

Fans tried to give Kentucky energy,

roaring when Denzel Aberdeen knocked down the first 3 of the game. It didn't help as Kentucky finished 5 of 31 overall and 3 of 20 from 3-point range, prompting more boos

trailing 43-20 at halftime.

"All the boos we heard tonight were incredibly well-deserved mostly for me, and we have to fix it," Pope said.

This is the second straight game Kentucky has struggled to shoot outside the arc. The Wildcats made just 1 of 13 attempts from 3 losing Tuesday night to No. 16 North Carolina 67-64. Against Gonzaga, they clanked balls off almost every part of the rim with at least a couple airballs only to keep shooting.

That wasn't the only issue. Kentucky was outrebounded 43-31 and outscored 46-18 in the paint and 32-19 in bench points.

Expectations always are high for the program with eight national championships. Pope taking the Wildcats to the Sweet 16 and a 24-12 record in his debut season. Then the Wildcats beat top-ranked Purdue by 13 in an exhibition in October, amping the usual hype even more.

Injuries sidelined projected starting point guard Jaland Lowe out the last five games with an injured right shoulder, though Lowe came off the bench against Gonzaga wearing a brace. Mouhamed Dioubate missed his fourth Friday night.

Yet another tough nonconference schedule hasn't helped. Each loss has been to a ranked opponent starting with in-state rival Louisville on Nov. 11 and Michigan State on Nov. 18. Pope said it's a bad spot right now.

"We have to dig ourselves out of it," Pope said.

LOSS

FROM PAGE B4

Top 25 for the first time and holding steady for four of the first five weeks.

That will change in Monday's poll after No. 10 Iowa State rolled into Mackey Arena and stomped the Boilermakers 81-58.

That triggers a question: Who's next at No. 1?

Arizona certainly has a shot.

The Wildcats (8-0) have been ranked No. 2 the past two weeks and have four wins over ranked teams: No. 15 Florida, then-No.

15 UCLA in Southern California, at No. 5 UConn and the home blowout of Auburn. The Tiger takedown was Arizona's largest win over a ranked opponent since beating No. 19 Western Kentucky by 39 points in 2002.

Michigan could leapfrog the Wildcats by the sheer magnitude of its wins.

The Wolverines (8-0) had some tight games early on, but have left a path of destruction over the past three weeks. Michigan has won each of its last five by at least 25 points, including two over ranked teams.

The big, bad Wolverines turned

a three-game run through the Players Era Championship in Las Vegas into a jackpot, beating San Diego State 94-54, Auburn 102-72 and No. 11 Gonzaga 101-61 in the title game.

Michigan was No. 3 in last week's poll, but had more first-place votes (15-6) than Arizona.

"I think there's a pretty wide margin between Michigan and Arizona and the rest of college basketball, just from what I've seen on film and, obviously, what we've experienced in person," Auburn coach Steven Pearl said.

Don't forget about Duke.

The Blue Devils (10-0) and uber-

talented freshman Cameron Boozer had early wins against Texas and No. 21 Kansas at Madison Square Garden. Duke most recently has traversed a gauntlet of games unscathed, beating No. 25 Arkansas in Chicago, Florida at home, then winning at No. 7 Michigan State in a game that had a late-March feel.

"That was a big-time basketball game and I'm still catching my breath," Duke coach Jon Scheyer said after the win in East Lansing.

No. 10 Iowa State also could be in the conversation.

The Cyclones (9-0) have one of the nation's most talented trios

in Milan Momcilovic, Joshua Jefferson and Tamin Lipsey, and are fourth nationally in scoring at 96.4 points per game.

It's a big jump from No. 10 to 1, but Iowa State did run the nation's top-ranked team right out of its own gym. The 23-point victory over Purdue matched the largest road win against a No. 1 team in NCAA history, a mark fist set by No. 15 Villanova with its 96-73 win over No. 1 UConn in 1995.

"It was an avalanche," Purdue coach Matt Painter said.

One that will trigger a change at the top of the college basketball world.

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